Claims

1. A system for providing information about the occurrence of at least one predetermined event associated with an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) in operable communication with the system, comprising:

a worker module determining whether the predetermined event has occurred; and

a user interface module responsive to the determination of the worker module, the user interface module generating a user interface providing information relating to the predetermined event, the user interface comprising at least one of a graphical portion and an alphanumerical portion.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the UPS has at least one operating parameter and wherein the information relating to the predetermined event comprises information relating to the at least one operating parameter of the UPS.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein the user interface module generates the user interface upon occurrence of the predetermined event.

4. The system of claim 3, wherein the event has a duration and wherein the user interface module generates a user interface for at least the duration of the predetermined event.

5. The system of claim 4 wherein the predetermined event is an event relating to UPS communication status.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein the predetermined event is an event relating to UPS battery status.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the user interface comprises at least one of a UPS status monitor, a system tray icon, an event notifier, and a balloon notifier.

8. The system of claim 7 wherein the user interface is capable of being viewed on a portion of a display.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the user interface has a size substantially similar to the size of a toolbar.

10. The system of claim 9, further comprising a memory storing information relating to at least one of the predetermined event and the operating parameter of the UPS.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the user interface further comprises a control that enables a user to perform a function based on the information in the user interface.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the worker module monitors the operating parameter of the UPS and the user interface module dynamically updates at least a portion of the user interface to reflect a change in the operating parameter.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the worker modules receives information from the UPS relating to an operating parameter of the UPS.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the user interface module displays a user interface providing context-sensitive information relating to an operating parameter of the UPS.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein the user interface module generates the user interface automatically

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the user interface module generates the user interface upon receipt of a command.

17. A method for providing a notification about the operation of an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) connected to a computer system, comprising:

determining that a first condition relating to the UPS has occurred; and

generating, upon the occurrence of the first condition, a user interface having an indicator capable of conveying UPS information, the indicator comprising at least one of a graphical image and a character image.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the first condition comprises at least one of a condition related to communications status with the UPS, a condition related to UPS battery operation, and a first received command.

19. The method of claim 18 further comprising ceasing to display the indicator upon occurrence of a second condition.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the second condition comprises a condition selected from the group consisting of receiving a second command, cessation of the first condition, and change in the first condition.

21. The method of claim 20 further comprising displaying at least one indicator conveying only information related to the first condition.

22. The method of claim 21, further comprising updating the indicator if the information relating to the first condition changes.

23. The method of claim 22 further comprising displaying a control enabling a function to be performed based on the first condition.

24. The method of claim 23 further comprising storing information relating to at least one of the first and second conditions.

25. The method of claim 24 further comprising displaying the stored information.

26. A method for providing a user, when an event occurs, with information relating to the operation of an uninterruptible power supply (UPS), the UPS having an operational status, the method comprising:

determining that an event has occurred;

displaying a user interface providing event-specific information about the operational status of the UPS, the user interface comprising at least one of a graphical indicator and a non-graphical indicator; and

updating the displayed operational status information if the information related to the operational status of the UPS changes during the time that the event is occurring.

27. The method of claim 26 wherein the event has a duration and further comprising providing an alarm to the user during the duration of the event, the alarm notifying the user than the event has occurred.

28. The method of claim 27 further comprising displaying a control in the user interface that enables the alarm to be muted.

29. The method of claim 28 further comprising ceasing to display the user interface when the event is no longer occurring.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the displayed user interface is sized to enable other information to be viewed on a display at the same time that the user interface is being viewed on the display.

31. A system for notifying a user about the occurrence of at least one event associated with the operation of an uninterruptible power supply (UPS), the event having a duration, comprising:

means for determining when the event has occurred; and

means for generating a user interface when the event occurs, the user interface providing information about the UPS during at least the duration of the predetermined event and comprising at least one of a graphical image and a textual image.

32. The system of claim 31 further comprising means for controlling a function related to the information that is displayed.

33. The system of claim 34 further comprising means for displaying the user interface to a user.

34. The system of claim 33 further comprising means for determining the duration of the predetermined event.

35. A computer program product comprising:

a computer useable medium and computer readable code embodied on the computer useable medium for providing information about the status of an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) during an event, the UPS having at least one operational parameter, the computer readable code comprising:

computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to effect a determination that the event has occurred; and

computer readable program code devices configured to cause the computer to effect the generating, upon occurrence of the event, of a user interface conveying information about the UPS operational parameter, the user interface comprising at least one of a graphical indicator and an alphanumeric indicator.

36. The computer program product of claim 35, further comprising computer readable program code devices configured to cause the computer to effect the display of the user interface.

37. The computer program product of claim 36, further comprising computer readable program code devices configured to cause the computer to effect the updating of the displayed user interface if the UPS operational parameter changes.

38. The computer program product of claim 37, further comprising computer readable program code devices configured to cause the computer to effect ceasing the generating of the user interface if the predetermined event is no longer occurring.